

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 176955  
ORIGIN NEA-10

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DRAFTED BY: NEA/PAB:JACOON

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-----002530 132030Z /75

R 131851Z JUL 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY KABUL 4928

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FOLLOWING REPEAT CAIRO 16803 SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO ALGIERS,  
AMMAN, BAGHDAD, BRUSSELS, DAMASCUS, GENEVA, ISLAMABAD, KHARTOUM,  
KUALA LUMPUR, RABAT 11 JUL 78

QUOTE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CAIRO 16803

E.O. 11652: NA

ORG EG

SUBJECT: INTERNATIONAL ISLAMIC FEDERATION OF LABOR

SUMMARY: BROTHER OF MUSLIM BROTHERHOOD FOUNDER HASSAN  
EL BANNA IS ATTEMPTING FORM ISLAMIC FEDERATION OF LABOR.  
APPEAL ADDRESSED TO ALL ISLAMIC COUNTRIES BUT EL BANNA  
EXPECTS POSITIVE REPLIES TO OOME LARGELY FROM NON-ARABS.  
PURPOSE OF FEDERATION OSTENSIBLY IS TO COMBAT COMMUNISM  
FOLLOWING BREAKUP OF ICATU. THUS FAR, EL BANNA HAS RE-  
CEIVED NO REPLIES. END SUMMARY.

1. EGYPTIAN FEDERATION OF LABOR OFFICIAL GAMAL EL BANNA  
(BROTHER OF MUSLIM BROTHERHOOD FOUNDER HASSAN EL BANNA)  
PASSED EMBOFF COPY OF HIS PROPOSAL FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF  
ISLAMIC INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF LABOR (IIFL). PRO-  
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POSAL ADDRESSED TO ALL ISLAMIC COUNTRIES AND, REPORTEDLY,  
WAS SENT ALSO TO COUNTRIES WITH SIZABLE ISLAMIC MINORITIES.  
PROPOSAL CALLS FOR CREATION OF IIFL EXPLICITLY TO COMBT  
COMMUNIST PENETRATION OF TRADE UNIONS, FOLLOWING DIS-  
APPEARANCE OF ALTERNATIVE ISLAMIC GROUPING RESULTING  
FROM OPPOSITION TO SADAT'S PEACE POLICY. PROPOSED  
ORGANIZATION WOULD COME INTO BEING FOLLOWING AFFILIATION

UNIONS FROM FIVE ISLAMIC COUNTRIES. HEADQUARTERS TO BE LOCATED IN COUNTRY WITH LARGEST NUMBER OF AFFILIATED WORKERS, ALTHOUGH PROPOSAL SUGGESTS IT WILL BE NON-ARAB STATE ("ARABS DO NOT FULLY APPRECIATE BLESSINGS OF ISLAM"). KORAN AND "CONFIRMED SUNA" WILL PROVIDE OPERATING CODE FOR NEW FEDERATION.

2. ELABORATING ON ABOVE, EL BANNA ADMITTED HE HAS LITTLE HOPE THAT MANY ARAB UNIONS WILL AFFILIATE. HE LISTED ONLY SUDAN, MOROCCO AND, PERHAPS, TUNISIA AS LIKELY. HE HAS GREATER HOPE THAT UNIONS IN PAKISTAN AND MALAYSIA MAY PROVE RESPONSIVE. EL BANNA CLAIMED HE HAS NOT DISCUSSED PROPOSAL WITH EGYPTIAN GOVERNMENT, NOR HAS HE CLEARED IT WITH EFL PRESIDENT SAAD AHMED. HE STATED, HOWEVER, THAT CONSTITUENT UNIONS WITHIN EFL HAVE ENDORSED IDEA--DISCUSSION, IN FACT, TOOK PLACE AT HEADQUARTERS BANKING AND INSURANCE WORKERS UNION, WHOSE PRESIDENT EXPRESSED FULL APPROVAL. THUS FAR, IIFL PROPOSAL HAS RECEIVED NO PUBLICITY IN EGYPT.

3. COMMENT: PROPOSAL TRADES HEAVILY ON EL BANNA'S BROTHER'S REPUTATION AND APPEARS TO BE THINLY VEILED APPEAL TO THOSE SYMPATHETIC TO MUSLIM BROTHERHOOD. DESPITE THIS, EL BANNA ANTICIPATES FAIR AMOUNT OF NEGATIVE REACTION FROM RELIGIOUS AUTHORITIES. AS OF FIRST WEEK IN JULY, EL BANNA HAD RECEIVED NO RESPONSE TO HIS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CIRCULAR. EILTS

UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** NEGOTIATIONS, OPENING OF OFFICES, LABOR UNIONS, RELIGIOUS GROUPS  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 13 jul 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
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**Errors:** N/A  
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**TAGS:** ELAB, SHUM, PINT, EG, ISLAMIC FEDERATION OF LABOR, (EL-BANNA, GAMAL)  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
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